

Persuasive Essay:
The Movie *300* & Hollywood's Responsibility to Historical Accuracy

Overview:

When Zack Snyder's film adaptation of Frank Miller's comic book series, *300*, was released in 2006 a fiery debate ensued. Iranians decried the film as an insult to their Persian heritage and an example of modern American propaganda. Frank Miller and others have argued it's a fantasy action film that happens to take the form of the epic Persian War battle, Thermopylae, and shouldn't be seen as pure history. We are left to ask: *Should Hollywood be held responsible for producing historically accurate films?*

You will read two articles about the historical accuracy of the film *300*. Take a position on ***whether or not Hollywood should be held responsible for producing historically accurate films.*** In your essay, you must support or oppose the prompt. Your essay should include information from *each* of the source materials.

Below are the steps you will follow:

1. Read the source materials.

Before taking a position on the issue, it is important that you read your source materials that assess each author's arguments. As you read the source materials, underline information, highlight or write notes on the articles themselves.

2. Think and plan before you write.

Ask yourself these questions:

- To what degree have I thought my position through?
- What is the basis of my position?

3. Prepare to write your essay.

You have been given two organizers which you may find useful as you consider the various arguments for and against the prompt. You may use the organizer that best suits your position.

4. Write your essay.

Write an essay that either supports or opposes the prompt. You must include information from each source. You may include information from your general knowledge background, if you believe it will strengthen your position.